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COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS
Sub-Commission on Prevention
of Discrimination and
Protection of Minorities
Forty-ninth session
Agenda item 11 (c)

REVIEW OF FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS IN FIELDS WITH WHICH THE SUB-COMMISSION HAS BEEN OR MAY BE CONCERNED

REVIEW OF ISSUES NOT PREVIOUSLY THE SUBJECT OF STUDIES BUT WHICH THE SUB-COMMISSION HAD DECIDED TO EXAMINE

Ms. Warzazi: draft decision

1997/... Humanitarian situation in Iraq

At its ... meeting, on .. August 1997, the Sub-Commission, recalling its decision 1996/107 of 20 August 1996, affirming once again the need to respect the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenants on Human Rights and the relevant provisions of the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 and the two Additional Protocols thereto, recalling also the Declaration of Minimum Humanitarian Standards contained in document E/CN.4/Sub.2/1991/55, notes with concern the delay in the supply of food and medicines to Iraq reported by several United Nations bodies. This failure to implement the agreement between Iraq and the United Nations, under the terms of Security Council resolution 986 (1995) of 14 April 1995, was moreover recently confirmed by the Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations for Humanitarian Affairs, who has undertaken to continue his efforts to

improve humanitarian supplies. Bearing in mind the right of every person to sufficient food and to basic health care, the Sub-Commission considers that the embargo still in force is seriously jeopardizing the health and nutritional state of the civilian population of Iraq, especially children, women and the most underprivileged sectors of the population. Considering further that measures such as embargoes should be limited in time and should be lifted, even though the legitimate objectives of the measures have not yet been attained, the Sub-Commission decided to appeal once again to the international community and to all Governments, including that of Iraq, to alleviate the suffering of the Iraqi population, in particular by facilitating the supply of food and medicines to meet the needs of the civilian population.